

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A halftone processing section halftone-processes input image data using a plurality of dither threshold planes. An image output section having different output position accuracies between a main scan direction and a sub-scan direction and outputs an image corresponding to halftone-processed image data. Each of the dither threshold planes consists of a plurality of same unit threshold matrixes. In the unit threshold matrix, relatively medium to high threshold array in a predetermined threshold range corresponding to the entire tone range of the input image data is an aperiodic array and an anisotropic array having neighboring thresholds in a direction coincident with a scan direction in which the output position accuracy of the image output means is relatively low, having close values. With this configuration, the image output section outputs an image having serial medium and high tone dots in the scan direction. As a result, it is possible to prevent occurrence of unevenness of density and stripes derived from the print position error of a printer.

0955052-06400